ESSENTIAL POETRY FROM OUTSTANDING POETS FOR FALL 2001

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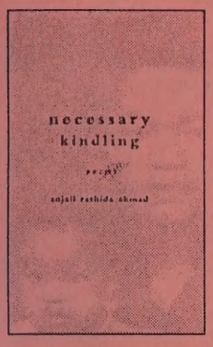

necessary kindling
anjail rashida ahmad

"The purifying fire which *necessary kindling* serves to ignite is the fire of begetting, engendering, generation; of race and tribe and family; of all things 'suffering to be born'; of that 'intricate pathway / to the world one experiences / as part of some others' bodies.' More particularly, it is a matrilinear fire whose banked-up wisdom and folly are fuel for whatever love is forged from the harsh realities of the African American experience. For the depth of its insight, the music of its line, and the unflinching gaze of its author, this is a remarkable first book of poems."—Sherod Santos

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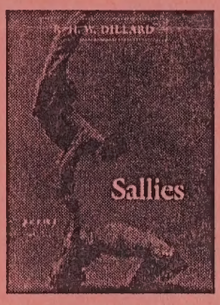

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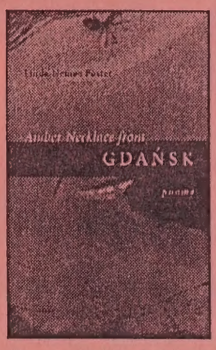

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